



# North Dakota



## State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

### Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Program	FY 2010 Final
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	238,790
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	90,000
Forest Legacy	0
Forest Stewardship	363,260
State Fire Assistance	341,590
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	810,700
Urban and Community Forestry	318,466
Volunteer Fire Assistance	187,320
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	296,940
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,647,066</b>

*This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.*

Cooperative programs are administered and implemented through partnerships between the State of North Dakota, USDA Forest Service, and other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of North Dakota's forests and rural economies. We emphasize forest health, forest products, wildfire prevention, water resources, rural economies, responsible stewardship, and conservation practices.

- Increase cost effectiveness by delivering services through partnerships.
- Increase values through sustained productivity of forests.
- Use voluntary and non-regulatory approaches.

### Key Issues:

- Invasive tree pests, tree pathogens, and invasive weeds.
- Over maturity and limited natural regeneration.
- Limited species diversity and vulnerability to damaging agents.
- Lack of educational outreach.
- Conversion from historic vegetation types.
- Wildfire.
- Limited wood utilization opportunities.
- Climate change.

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments:

Selected Facts		FY2010 Accomplishments	
Population	642,200	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	269
Acres of Forest Land	724,000	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	1,211
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	510,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	998
Number of NIPF Landowners	24,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	88
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	3,867,118	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	81
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	31,878,661	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	2,500
Number of Rural Fire Departments	378	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	0
Number of Cities And Towns	373	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	73
Forest Based Employment	3,167	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	407,094
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	3	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	6,275
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	5,157,195		

## Program Highlights:

### *Conservation Education*

Conservation Education funds are used to raise awareness about natural resource values, support informed decision-making, and foster individual responsibility in stewards of all ages. The NDFS actively promotes Project Learning Tree opportunities for students and teachers. In 2010, 323 PreK-12 teachers were trained in 19 PLT workshops, 1,907 fifth grade students from 98 schools participated in the Arbor Day poster contest, and 946 second graders from 71 schools (25% of the total student population in private, public, and Bureau of Indian Affairs schools) participated in the Smokey Bear poster contest. The high school Envirothon program has grown from 4 teams in 2000 to 90 teams participating at 35 schools in 2010. A total of 13,102 students participated in 13 educational events (Eco-Eds, Conservation Days, Wildlife Camps, Zoo Days, interactive television and classroom presentations).

### *Cooperative Fire Protection*

Cooperative Fire Protection interagency priorities are to protect lives, property, and natural resources from wildfires. National Fire Plan funds were used to provide technical and financial assistance to local fire departments and purchase federal excess property for firefighting and prevention. The NDFS provided over 7,400 hours of comprehensive wildfire and prescribed burn training to nearly 500 firefighters across the state. Funds were used to maintain five Type 6 fire engines, a Type 4 water tender, a Type II initial attack hand crew/fuels module, and a fire cache storing equipment for a hundred people. This equipment and the firefighters were critical for tackling wildfires across North Dakota and in neighboring states. These efforts strengthen interagency cooperation and coordination, which improves fire suppression efficiency and effectiveness. Efforts are underway with the ND Department of Emergency Services to develop capacity in statewide Incident Management Assistance Teams.

### *Economic Action*

The NDFS received \$100,000 for a Turtle Mountain Tribal Hazardous Fuel and Biomass project on tribal trust land owned by the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians northeast of Belcourt, ND. The focus is twofold: (1) select hazardous fuels projects from priority landscapes identified in the State Assessment Plan, and (2) market the woody biomass materials from the fuels reduction effort. The 200-acre area selected was severely damaged by a tornado near the Anishinabe Cultural Center in an extremely high density of wildland urban interface. The funds are being used for project planning, administration, landscape treatments, and biomass processing. Currently 42.7 acres have been treated. This treatment provides risk mitigation by removing hazardous fuels, and provides the Turtle Mountain Tribal members with woody biomass from the project for heating in their homes.

### *Forest Health Protection*

Forest Health Protection provides technical assistance, educational outreach, and training to private landowners and agency resource managers in all phases of forest pest management. The agency collaborates with state, university, and federal personnel to deliver program services, including forest health surveys, insect and disease diagnosis, and management recommendations on a statewide basis. A primary emphasis is the statewide monitoring of forest insects and disease conditions. Other program activities include Gypsy moth detection trapping, diagnosis and assessment of forest pests on private and public lands, and training in the identification of insect and disease pests. The program collaborates with the USDA Forest Service to implement the Forest Inventory and Analysis program (FIA), including Ozone Bioindicator Plot Surveys. The ND Department of Agriculture focuses on early detection and rapid response to new invaders, hosting educational programs, and delivering biological control insects to partners, especially for noxious weed infested land that is unsuitable for herbicide applications.

### *Landowner Assistance*

Landowner Assistance provides technical forestry assistance to private landowners throughout North Dakota. Activities include: (1) providing natural resource planning to increase active management within native forestlands and windbreaks; (2) restoring riparian areas and improving management within category one watersheds; (3) promoting wildfire protection through the installation of vegetative firebreaks, defensible space, and Firewise practices; (4) promoting tree planting to increase the number of acres planted annually; (5) assisting landowners with timber harvesting and marketing; (6) creating forestry incentives such as the ND Forest Stewardship Tax Law; and (7) engaging in hazardous fuels reduction projects. The State Stewardship Coordinating Committee provides on-going program direction. In 2010, 254 landowners were assisted and 22 landowners received Forest Stewardship plans with 1,211 acres digitized and added to the database. The ND

Conservation Forestry Initiative supports all 55 soil conservation districts with additional staffing and training needs to meet the increased technical assistance workload generated by landowner requests for new forestry initiative practices. The Natural Resources Conservation Service, which manages the Environmental Quality Incentives funds, received 81 landowner applications for tree plantings.

#### *Urban and Community Forestry*

Urban and Community Forestry provides information, technical assistance, and challenge grants to communities and local government for planting, protecting and maintaining trees in urban environments, developing management plans, developing inventories, conducting resource assessments, and developing ordinances or policies. The North Dakota Community Forestry Council, an advisory group to the State Forester, provides program guidance and maintains priorities, including: Plant Health Care, Species Diversity, Right Tree-Right Place, Sustainable Forestry, and Promoting Professionalism. Staff coordinate statewide Tree City USA programs. They also help communities obtain grants via a variety of programs, including Community Transportation Enhancement, Storm Tree Replacement, Community "Family Forest" and America the Beautiful Program Development and Tree Planting. In 2010, 407,094 people lived in communities receiving educational, technical, or financial assistance. Eighty-three percent of North Dakota's population lives in communities with active urban and community forestry initiatives. Communities were awarded \$166,723 for 18 tree planting grants with total project costs of \$284,535.

#### *Great Plains Tree and Forest Invasives Initiative*

The "Great Plains Tree and Forest Invasives Initiative" (GPI) is a multi-state response plan to manage the threat from emerald ash borer (EAB) and other invasive pests impacting the limited tree resources of the Great Plains. The US Forest Service awarded funding to forestry agencies in Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

#### *ND Statewide Assessment of Forest Resources and Forest Resource Strategy*

The "North Dakota Statewide Assessment of Forest Resources and Forest Resource Strategy" was approved on August 6, 2010, by the USDA Forest Service as required in the 2008 Farm Bill in order to receive funds under the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act.

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#### **For more information contact:**



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*Last Updated: February 3, 2011*